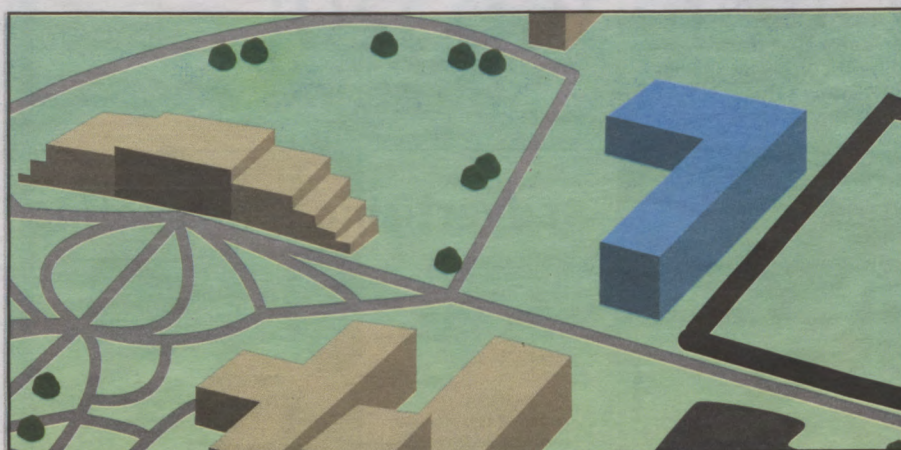


## Debate coverage

Student struggles, possible  
parking problems

pgs. 8-10



**Board of trustees  
approves schematics  
for new engineering  
center, pg. 6**



# this week

November 2 — November 8, 2011

Photo  
of the  
Week



## Celebrating Diwali // Oct. 29, Banquet Rooms

SARAH WOJCIK/The Oakland Post

Ben Eveslage, Oakland University Student Congress president, grabs a plate of Indian Cuisine prepared by Chartwells executive chef John Miller. The event, which featured Indian dancing and food, helped students celebrate the Indian new year. Diwali, known as the "festival of lights," is celebrated on the last day of the year, which fell on Oct. 26 this year.



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**CAMPUS //** A new off-campus housing facility, parking garage and student center were recently approved by the c



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**SPORTS //** The women's volleyball team won both of their games this past weekend against rivals Oral Roberts and Southern Utah.



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**FEATURES //** Members of the Oakland University community will stand in during a dress rehearsal the day before the GOP debate.



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**THE SCENE //** The Oakland Post continues its series on OU musical talent with a feature on 'The Hot Pants,' an alternative and classic rock band.

Op

Have a news tip for us?  
Tweet @theoaklandpost  
and let us know what  
we're missing.

## THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 38 // Issue 13

### editorial & media

#### Kay Nguyen

Editor-in-Chief

editor@oaklandpostonline.com  
(248) 370-4268

#### Nichole Seguin

Managing Content Editor

managing@oaklandpostonline.com  
(248) 370-2537

#### Kaitlyn Chornoby

Managing Visual Editor

visual@oaklandpostonline.com  
(248) 370-4266

#### section editors

Megan Semeraz  
Campus Editor  
campus@oaklandpostonline.com  
(248) 370-4263

Kevin Romanchik  
Sports Editor  
sports@oaklandpostonline.com  
(248) 370-2848

Ali Armstrong  
Local Editor  
local@oaklandpostonline.com  
(248) 370-2848

Sarah Wojcik  
Features Editor  
features@oaklandpostonline.com  
(248) 370-2848

Scene Editor  
scene@oaklandpostonline.com  
(248) 370-2848

Mouthing Off Editor  
mouthingoff@oaklandpostonline.com  
(248) 370-2848

web  
Bryan Culver  
web@oaklandpostonline.com

#### copy editors

Justin Colman  
Clare La Torre

photo editor  
Sierra Solemani

#### photographers

Chelsea Bistue  
Gustavo Pessutti

#### senior reporter

Mike Horan

#### staff reporters

Emma Clauncherty  
Brian Figurski  
Kevin Graham  
Sarah Hunton  
Haley Jonna  
Seth Walker

#### staff interns

Ashley Allison  
\*Christopher Lauritsen  
Misha Mayhand  
Stephanie Preweda  
Jordan Reed  
Isabella Shaya

#### advisors

Holly Gilbert  
Don Ritenburgh  
(248) 370-2848

#### distribution manager

Devin Thomas

### advertising & marketing

Devin Thomas  
Lead Ads Manager  
ads@oaklandpostonline.com  
(248) 370-4269

Krystal Harris  
Assistant Ads Manager  
ads@oaklandpostonline.com

Sarah Hunton  
Assistant Ads Manager  
ads@oaklandpostonline.com

Dáud Yar  
Promotions Product Manager

Jason Willis  
Branding Consultant

Cover design by KAITLYN CHORNOBY/The Oakland Post



## No sense in new building

### BOT passes plan for new \$74.5 million engineering center

When news began circulating that Oakland University Board of Trustees chair Henry Baskin faced allegations of adultery and professional misconduct, it was probably the first time many campus community members began paying attention to the board of trustees and its leadership.

While we aren't qualified to form a legal opinion on the Baskin vs. Michigan Attorney Grievance Commission Case, we do know one thing: Attention shouldn't shift to the board of trustees only during times of 'scandal.'

Members of the board make decisions that have far-reaching effects that span the entirety of campus. They affect faculty, staff and students.

This Monday's meeting was rife with examples of why campus community members should pay attention to the board.

Bonds and a schematic design were approved for the construction of a new engineering center.

Its expected cost will top \$74 million.

This seems ironic, considering the board recently approved a budget that included \$42 million in "cost containment initiatives" such as the elimination of positions, the reduction of program offerings, the deferral of needed maintenance and the renegotiation of contracts with union employees.

A \$74 million building? Now? Really?

The plan is that most of the cost — about \$40 million — will come from private support and external grants.

Meanwhile, the state of Michigan has promised an allocation of \$30 million in support of the construction of the building. That will make a dent. But only if it surfaces.

There is a possibility the state money may not come through, though. Vice President for Government Relations Rochelle Black assured the board it would be unprecedented if the state were to pull the funding, but at the same time she said

that action should be taken immediately in case the state begins "phasing things out."

That would leave OU — and its students — to foot much of the entire bill for the building, which is arguably oversized. Keep in mind that the Science and Engineering building is only 14 years old.

School of Engineering and Computer Sciences Dean Louay Chamra boasted that the building will be able accommodate more than double the current amount of engineering students. He cited that the fact that this year's freshman class increased 35 percent over last year.

However, according to the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, the growth in the number of total credit hours being taken by students in the School of Engineering and Computer Sciences was only 0.7 percent.

We wonder about the prudence of this decision in such an unstable economic climate. We got the sense that even mem-

bers of the board were dubious about this plan based on their myriad questions about debt being incurred by the school.

That makes us even more nervous. There are ways for the university to continue to guarantee a first class education without possibly jeopardizing its financial stability and risking the need for further tuition hikes.

To their credit, the board did approve some plans that will gain revenue for the school.

That includes a biomedical science program that will require no additional infrastructure. The program, which is designed to be profitable and accommodate students interested in pre-med seems like a given increase for enrollment, which will also help with keeping tuition costs down.

Another is a lease for extra space in Oakland County for the School of Education and Human services. Yes, it will cost \$27,000 per year, but that's a bargain compared to the new engineering center.

#### EDITORIAL BOARD

Kay Nguyen, Nichole Seguin  
and Kaitlyn Chornoby  
managing@oaklandpostonline.com



#### CONTACT US

##### In person:

61 Oakland Center, in the basement

##### By e-mail:

editor@oaklandpostonline.com

##### By phone:

248-370-4268

##### Network with The OP:

facebook.com/theoakpost  
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##### Letter Policy:

Writers must provide full name, class rank, phone number and field of study. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. Letters may be edited for clarity, length and grammar.

## Keeping up with the GOP debate just got easy.



Follow the Republican presidential debate as The Oakland Post covers related issues in print and online.

[oaklandpostonline.com/topics/gop-debate-2011](http://oaklandpostonline.com/topics/gop-debate-2011)



# Letters to the Editor

The Oakland Post gladly accepts letter submissions. The views expressed are of their respective writers and do not necessarily reflect those of The Oakland Post.

Letter Policy: Writers must provide full name, class rank, contact information and field of study. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. Letters may be edited for clarity, length and grammar.

*Editor's Note: The Oakland Post received a lot of response from last week's guest perspective from professor Fritz McDonald on the campus smoking policy. The following letters are just a portion of what we received.*

We students at OU know that smoking is harmful, but dealing with people like Fritz McDonald is also dangerous.

Aristotle said that human beings are a rational thinking animal.

What Fritz did was very irrational, rude and threatening. It is also a logical fallacy to raise your voice and ridicule your opponent in an argument in philosophy.

We smokers are not here to cause danger to other students.

Statistically, the pollution from your car is worse than if every smoker got together and smoked at the same time.

Anyway, I was very discouraged when finding out that Fritz was a philosophy professor. For to me and many others, philosophy is not just a subject, it's not just a job, it is a lifestyle. Philosophy in direct translation from Greek means "love of wisdom."

The way Fritz went about his argument was childish, unprofessional, threatening and not philosophical in anyway.

Fritz is not just a poor philosopher, but a poor role model and a poor adult.

I dreadfully will regret the day I have to deal with that "philosopher" again, but I keep my mind

open to great Philosophy professors like Paul Graves and Eric Larock.

I beg every OU student to not take Fritz as a role model of philosophy for he is the exact opposite of what philosophers are.

—Dominick Borowicz,  
Philosophy

I know that OU is on its way to a complete ban on smoking and there appears to be no way to stop it. It seems like an effort to appear as though they are doing something when in reality it is nothing more than posturing.

No one is at risk for cancer from incidental exposure to second hand smoke. Fritz McDonald's column in the most recent Oakland Post failed to address any of my points from a letter on the subject in a previous issue.

Calling OU's current policy a, "third-rate Detroit casino style policy" is laughable at best and meant only to be inflammatory.

Likening smokers to a deranged student poisoning the drinking water makes no sense at all. Is he saying all smokers are deranged?

When he says that banning smoking would help save everyone their hard earned dollars, I don't understand how he can even make that statement.

His hackneyed rhetoric is beneath someone of his position and stature.

—Corey Williams,  
Sociology and Anthropology

My name is Jason Poupard, and

I am an addict.

I am addicted to nicotine and caffeine to the tune of a pot of coffee (or more) and smoke half-a-pack of cigarettes per day.

I know that smoking will shorten my lifespan and will possibly lead to a particularly nasty death. I accept this. I knew it when I was fourteen and started smoking.

The editorial in the Oct. 26 issue of The Oakland Post made several points that I would like to respond to, as a member of the smoking community.

First, the professor argued that OU ought to ban smoking because of the negative health effects of second-hand smoke.

His definition of second-hand smoke includes walking by a group of people smoking outdoors. Prohibition on other self-destructive habits has proven not only ineffective, but counterproductive.

Perhaps the increased taxes are working — \$3 per pack in state and federal tax, which is about half of the total price — only a hair over 20 percent of Americans still smoke.

Tobacco use, however, is no longer America's leading cause of preventable death.

More than 30 percent of Michiganders are obese. When reformers suggest taxes or bans upon unhealthy food (which is readily available in every building on campus) or nutrition-free sodas, they are actively ignored.

Finally, the professor argued that OU should ban smoking

on campus because of increased health care costs.

How can a habit which will lead to my early death from inflicting massive damage upon myself actually cost the system more?

Second, it is a wrong assumption. Less people than ever before are smoking and health care costs are still rising.

On the other hand, a ban on smoking would also cost the school money.

I chose to not attend Wayne State or the University of Michigan precisely for those smoking bans.

Had a full ban existed, I would not have chosen OU. If a full ban is enacted, I will take my money and walk.

Smoking isn't just pleasant for me. It is also actively unpleasant for others.

For that reason, I support the policy that smokers should not smoke directly in front of the main building entrances.

—Jason Poupard  
History

Recently, a member of our faculty claimed that the smoking ban was too lenient.

In doing so, he argued that allowing anyone to smoke on campus was comparable to letting someone poison the water supply.

I would like you to imagine, for a moment, that we allowed someone to bring a large machine to campus to blow toxic chemicals into the air, chemicals that are terrible for people now, and over the

long term will end up making the planet uninhabitable. Such a terrible thing is not only allowed, it is for many necessary — it is called a car.

The thousands of cars in the parking lots around campus pose a short and long term health risk more so than any secondhand smoke that a member of our community might encounter. Clearly then, we should ban cars on campus.

But why stop there? Perhaps we should ban products that are manufactured using fossil fuels, or have a positive carbon footprint, or are made by workers in inhumane conditions.

Perhaps we should require all students, faculty and staff to use renewable energy sources at home, so that we don't have to worry about the emissions from the power plant negatively impacting our health and environment.

Maybe we should ban non-recycled paper on campus and high fat or high sugar foods, so that we don't have to pay for the long term care of the problems that obesity causes.

Perhaps we should allow beer and wine on campus, because of the health benefits of moderate consumption.

Or perhaps this professor is complaining because he doesn't like the smell of smoke. I don't like the smell of car exhaust. Deal with it.

—Alexander Wiggins,  
Applied Mathematics

## This Week's Poll

Do you support the efforts for a new engineering building?

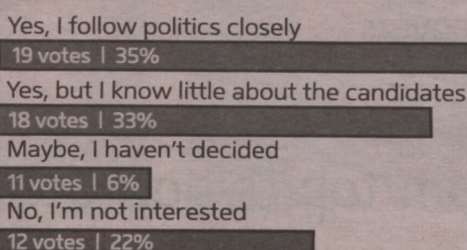
- No, the university is spending too much money.
- Yes, I support campus improvements and additions.

Vote at [www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)

## Poll of the Week

11.02.11

Will you be watching the GOP Debate being held on OU's campus?



55 total votes

## CORRECTIONS CORNER

— In the obituary for Jenna Balabuch, it was wrongly reported that she was born on Nov. 11. Her birthday is actually on March 29.

— In the article "South Indian Percussion visiting Varner Hall," it was incorrectly reported that Rohan Krishnamurthy is from South India. He was born in California and grew up in Michigan.

The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact. If you know of an error, please e-mail [managing@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:managing@oaklandpostonline.com) or call 248.370.2537. You can also write us at 61 Oakland Center Rochester, MI 48309.

If you are interested in writing a guest column for the Perspectives section, e-mail [editor@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:editor@oaklandpostonline.com) or call 248.370.4268.



## Auburn Hills passes housing option

By **NICHOLE SEGUIN**  
Managing Content Editor

An off-campus housing facility, parking structure and student center was recently approved for the downtown Auburn Hills area by the City of Auburn Hills.

Dually funded by the city of Auburn Hills and a private development company, Oakland University will not be investing in any of the facilities.

"OU has no investment, but plans on making it a housing option," Tom Tanghe, assistant city manager, said. "The city realized the housing situation at OU and (they) took advantage of it."

Currently, the apartment complex is expected to have 97 units with a mixture of one or two bedroom options or studio flats. The parking structure will be worked into the building.

"(The parking structure) is great, especially for female students," Tanghe said. "It's a good, secure environment. It's also great for the winter. Students won't have to worry about snow and they can live in an environment with security."

The four-story building — which is currently planned to be open to OU graduate students in the fall — isn't just for OU students though. According to Tanghe, it will be open to students from Oakland Community College, The William Beaumont School of Medicine and Cooley Law School as well.

Tanghe said he's hoping students from each college will interact, especially in the study lounge, a log cabin across the street from Nana's Café at the intersection of Auburn and Squirrel roads, which will be converted into a student center.

"The center is being designed similarly



Illustration courtesy of Tom Tanghe

The City of Auburn Hills has recently approved a privately-owned off-campus housing facility and parking garage which will be located in downtown Auburn Hills.

to study spaces and a lounge ... while maintaining a log cabin structure," Tanghe said. "We want it to be a gathering place for students to spend hours studying and an integrated learning environment."

Brett McIsaac, a senior majoring in biology, also said that he was advocating for the lounge to be open for 24 hours, using the success of the Kresge project as an example.

"Over 11,000 people have been there from midnight until 7 a.m. since we started keeping it open," he said.

McIsaac, student services director for OU student congress, has been working with Tanghe and students from other schools on the development of the buildings. Together, they are collaborating ideas to help

figure out what to offer.

"Along with another student from OU, two students from Cooley and two from OCC, we've been discussing the amenities for students down to the color of the fabrics and how to arrange the furniture," McIsaac said. "These facilities are the first of plans to create housing in downtown Auburn Hills for students."

According to Tanghe, OU will not be placing OU residence assistance in the apartment complex, as a private managing company will be in charge.

"It's the only privately owned apartment building off campus that will be offered but not owned by the universities," Tanghe said. "It's a win-win for everyone."

## Discussion panel teaches students debate coverage

By **JUSTIN COLMAN**  
Copy Editor

As part of the Republican Debate week, Oakland University is hosting a journalism panel discussion event. Inside Journalism Today, which takes place Nov. 4, will give students a chance to see how an event, such as the upcoming debate, is covered.

Joining the group of executives from CNBC are OU alumni who are in the journalism in-

dustry. Ritu Sehgal, the deputy managing editor for news and features at The Detroit Free Press and John Stoll, U.S. editor of manufacturing for Reuters News Service, will join the panel. Garry Gilbert, the director of OU journalism department, will be the moderator of the event.

"One of the primary goals of this is to help students, faculty and staff — those who attend — to understand exactly what it is they're going to be seeing on Nov. 9, during that two hour

debate," Gilbert said.

Gilbert believes that this is an opportunity for students to get a good look at the journalism industry.

"One of the really cool things about this event is that we're going to have about 200 journalists coming here from around the world because this is a major political news event," he said.

"The finest political reporters in the country will be here covering the event, so there will

be networking opportunities for our students and it also allows them to study and see how some of the best journalists in the world work and cover an event like this."

Inside Journalism Today will take place in Banquet Room A of the Oakland Center, from noon — 1:30 p.m.

The event is open to the students, staff and community members.

Free food will be provided for those who attend the event.

## campus briefs

### Economic issues forum

On Nov. 8, from 6 to 8 p.m. in 234 Elliott Hall. Students, faculty and community members are invited to a forum to discuss economic issues our nation is currently facing.

Confirmed speakers include Mark Bennet, senior counsel of law firm Miller Canfield and Ron Tracy, associate professor of economics.

Those interested in attending should email Lisa Desmet at [desmet@oakland.edu](mailto:desmet@oakland.edu)

### Secretary of State mobile branch office

A mobile branch office of the Secretary of State will provide a full-service operation, including voter registration.

The event will provide the campus community with an opportunity to register in time for the Michigan Presidential Primary Election, which is scheduled for Feb. 28, 2012.

The mobile office will be open on Nov. 7 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Oakland Center and Nov. 8 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Oakland Center.

### The GOP debate watch party

On the night of the debate, a watch party will provide individuals who cannot attend the actual debate with a chance to still be engaged in it.

The party starts at 6 p.m. and will be held in the Oakland Center banquet rooms.

Students, faculty and campus community members are invited to join. Due to an overwhelming response, a lottery will be held for ticket distribution. Registration is required to attend.

To sign up and to learn more visit [oakland.edu/debateatoakland](http://oakland.edu/debateatoakland)

— Compiled by Megan Semeraz,  
Campus Editor



## By the numbers

- \$74.5 million engineering center has been approved
- OU must finance \$44 million of the engineering project
- The state of Michigan will pay \$30 million for the new facility
- This year's freshman class is 35 percent larger than last fall
- Biology majors have increased 117 percent over the past 5 years
- Sergeants will be receiving a 2 percent pay raise in their first year of their three-year collective agreement
- There were 15 members of the union that attended the event

— Compiled by Megan Semeraz,  
Campus Editor



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# Board of Trustees

## Engineering center, union contracts approved

By **HALEY JONNA**  
and **KAY T. NGUYEN**

Staff Reporter and Editor-in-Chief

The Oakland University Board of Trustees approved the schematics for and the bonds necessary to create a new \$74.5 million engineering center on Monday, Oct. 31 in addition to deliberating over a full agenda. Pivotal actions have been approved that will impact the growth and development of OU as well as tuition, possibly.

### Approval for new building

"We are going to have an engineering school," Henry Baskin, the chair of the Board of Trustees, announced.

The board voted unanimously in favor of the construction of a new engineering building after extensive discussion of the university's finances and debt capacity, since the school must finance \$44 million of the project.

A commitment from the state of Michigan to chip in \$30 million will make up the rest of the project's funding. Baskin queried administrators and financial advisers on the impact the construction of the building may have on tuition.

Vice President of Finance and Administration John Beaghan said he has no future budget plans completed yet, but noted that tuition has increased every year he has been in his position.

"We can probably anticipate there will be some tuition increase proposed for next year," he said.

Dean of the School of Engineering and Computer Science, Louay Chamra, emphasized the benefits of the construction of the new building.

With this year's freshman class being 35 percent larger than last fall's, Chamra believes that the facility will contribute to the unique opportunities that OU can offer to talented applicants.

The construction of the new building will answer demands for the future, he said. Dean Chamra added that there will be a shortage of engineers in Southeast Michigan in the next 10 years.

Outreach programs will be designed to students, grades K-12, to entice an interest in engineering and science from a young age.

"I really anticipate this being a world class facility and it holds a lot of opportunities with underrepresented minorities. I commend Dean Chamra for that," trustee Monica Emerson said.

Schematics for the building designed by SmithGroup were also approved at the meeting. Paul Urbanek, design director and

vice president of the firm's Detroit office is the lead designer on the project.

The building will be designed to fit more than double the college's current student population and to expand faculty.

Chamra said he plans to house student services at the heart of the building with accommodations for communal gathering and food services.

The L-shaped building will be nestled between Kresge Library, Dodge Hall and Elliott Hall.

"We're trying to create this area to build a student center area and make a quad of sorts," Chamra said. "It will be the center of the university in such a way that the university will be a commuter university, but still be in the center of campus."

### New major

Because of an explosion in enrollment in biological studies, a new major in biomedical sciences has been developed.

"I should be asking for a new building, but I'm just asking for a degree program," Ron Sudol, dean of the college of arts and sciences, said.

Sudol said the number of biology majors has increased by 117 percent in the last five years.

The major will use a strong integrative approach to emphasize basic science and medical training for those interested in the pre-med track.

The pre-med program is a concentration at OU and not an offered major.

No other university in the state offers the program. The hope is that the specialized degree will attract higher-achieving high school students.

Requirements for the majors — such as psychology, calculus, sociology and ethics — make for a unique combination that is appealing to medical schools.

The project estimates this program to be profitable, raising undergraduate admissions.

"We want to be able to attract the higher-achieving high school graduates in science and offer a somewhat more specialized degree in biomedical science," Sudol said.

### Oakland schools lease

The Board of Trustees accepted a real estate lease agreement for facilities in Oakland County that will offer classes to area teachers as professional development opportunities.

"We can no longer afford to be just in Pawley Hall. We need to be more assertive in programs," said Louis Gallien, dean of the school of education.

Gallien said the lease of this space off Squirrel Road will provide outreach opportunities for OU, as they will be the only university presence in the building. It will gain revenue for the school by offering training opportunities to area school teachers.

Similar programming is already available at a Macomb County location.

### Welcoming a new dean

Also on the agenda, Kerri Schuilling was appointed Dean of the School of Nursing. Previously the Associate Dean and Director of the School of Nursing at Northern Michigan University, Schuilling is a nationally recognized academic leader and an honoree of the American Academy of Nursing who came highly recommended by Virinder Moudgil, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs.

### Union agreements

Agreements between the Police Officers Labor Council and the Police Officers Association of Michigan and the university were approved.

The labor council represents sergeants while the officers association represents officers and dispatchers.

Ron Watson, assistant vice president for human resources, served as the chief bargainer during negotiations.

Sergeants will be receiving a 2 percent pay raise in the first year of their three-year collective agreement and 1 percent raises in subsequent contract years.

Negotiations are ongoing between the university and the Campus Maintenance and Trades Union and Professional Support Association, which represent hourly grounds and maintenance workers and clerical services employees, respectively.

Nancy Strachan, vice president of the Michigan Education Association, spoke on behalf of the CMT union at the meeting.

"We remain certain we can reach an agreement that is both acceptable to OUCMT and the university and thank the university for verbally agreeing to a contract extension as we return to the bargaining table," Strachan said.

About 15 members of the union attended the meeting, waiting until Strachan's remarks at the very end of the two-hour session. "These members care about your facilities and take great pride in the work they do and are dedicated to the university," Strachan said.

The next meeting will be held in the Elliott Hall auditorium on Dec. 19. More information on the board and meeting agendas can be found at [oakland.edu/bot](http://oakland.edu/bot)



# I2B launches student businesses

By **CHRISTOPHER LAURITSEN**  
Staff Intern

On Nov. 3, entrepreneurs of Oakland University and Cooley Law School will have an opportunity to see their business ideas come to life. The grand opening event for the Ideas to Business (I2B) program will be held in the Shotwell-Gufstason Pavilion, near Meadow Brook Hall.

I2B is a new program located right on OU's campus that will help those involved develop their business ideas. The program is open to students, faculty and staff at OU and Cooley Law School.

"I2B stands for Ideas 2 Business and it has been a major goal of OU to have a program to help students get their entrepreneurial goals off the ground," Wayne Blizman, I2B coordinator, said.

In the program, students and alumni get hands-on experience in owning their own businesses.

"The school of business has an emphasis on taking what the students learn in the classroom and applying it to real world situations and this program is a great way to accomplish that," Balaji Rajagopalan, associate dean of the school of business adminis-

tration, said.

After someone submits an idea to I2B, it goes to a selection committee that will analyze the proposal and put the innovator of the idea with a team of advisors that can be from OU, Cooley Law School or the business community.

Once put into a group, the innovator and advisors will have space to meet in a new I2B lab to perfect their idea.

When the group has formed their idea, they will send it to another selection committee run by the I2B program, which will decide if they are ready for the next step of the program.

The team then will head to the OU Incubator where they will be given office space and all the resources needed to turn their dreams of a business into a reality.

According to a National Business Incubation Association study found on the I2B website, 87 percent of incubator startups are still in business after 10 years, compared to a survival rate of only 44 percent of non-participants after four years in business.

"This is an opportunity we have never really had before," Blizman said.

In an effort to make it easier for those interested in attending this event, the I2B pro-

gram will be providing a free shuttle service from the Oakland Center to the Shotwell-Gufstason Pavilion.

There will be light refreshments for the first half hour.

There will also be time for interested students to walk around and look at 13-16 examples of students or alumni who are in the process of starting, or have already started their own successful business. These students or alumni are from OU and Cooley law school.

Several guest speakers are also expected to take the stage including President Gary Russi, the Dean of the School of Business Administration, Mohan Tanniru and the dean of the School of Engineering and Computer Science, Louay M. Chamra.

Three additional guest speakers from the local business community will also speak to the students.

"For the state to grow, it needs to grow it's industry base and this program is a great way to do just that," Rajagopalan said.

Those who wish to attend the open house should email [aaevent2@oakland.edu](mailto:aaevent2@oakland.edu)

For more information on the event and about I2B and to download a free flier go to [oakland.edu/i2b](http://oakland.edu/i2b)

## Police Files

### Robbery near the OC

On Oct. 19, a female approached a student asking to borrow a cell phone. After 20 minutes of use, both started walking towards South Foundation Hall. Once the student took it back, the suspect snatched it out of her hand and ran toward the P-1 parking lot. The student signaled the emergency blue light phone nearby and gave a description of the suspect and direction of travel. Officers detained the suspect at a childcare center in Auburn Hills. The student confirmed the suspect's identity. The suspect said she forgot she had the phone then walked across the parking lot. The suspect was charged with robbery.

### Marijuana use in Van Wagoner

On Oct. 25, officers were called about an odor. When officers approached the door, they smelled marijuana. Officers said "the room was smoky." There were five students in the room and four had "red, watery eyes." The other was released with no citation. Occupants denied smoking and said that they had burnt a piece of paper in the microwave and threw it out the window. There was no evidence of the claim. Officers found a bong and a small amount of marijuana. After finding the paraphernalia, they admitted to possession and smoking. Two of the four students received a misdemeanor citation for marijuana use while the others got a citation for marijuana.

### Possible cocaine use

On Oct. 27, officers went to South Foundation about a student that may have used narcotics in class. The professor told officers that after the class, students told her they witnessed a student "snort a white powder off the desk top." The student reportedly had been acting different. Officers examined the desk and saw a small area of a residue but not enough for a narcotics test. Officers told the professor to call OUPD if the student showed any more strange behavior.

— Compiled by Kevin Romanchik,  
Sports Editor

# Former English professor publishes new book

By **MEGAN SEMERAZ**  
Campus Editor

An award winning poet and author of nine books, Michael Heffernan is coming to Oakland University on Nov. 7 to read a variety of his works aloud from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the Oakland Center Banquet Rooms.

Heffernan, an OU English instructor from 1967-1969, has received national recognition for his poetry. He has received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, two Pushcart Prizes and the Porter Prize for Literary Excellence.

"Six of my books have been published by university presses in the United States three by a major poetry press in Ireland. A tenth is in the works for publication in Ireland next spring," Heffernan said.

Attendees will hear an array of Heffernan's work — some of what he may read dates back to the late 1970s.

"On the evening of Nov. 7, I will give a one-hour poetry



reading from 'At the Bureau of Divine Music,' along with possibly some earlier books," Heffernan said. "The new book is my ninth, so I have a fair backlog of material going back to my first book, published in 1979."

Brian Connery, professor of English, is organizing the event.

Connery read Heffernan's new material in preparation for

the event and he said the book perplexed and delighted him.

"Perplexed because the poems seem to operate within their own reality, which overlaps considerably with reality as most of us understand it, but which also opens up without warning to allow wonderful imaginary events," he said.

Connery said the poems have been carefully crafted and have the ability to surprise readers.

"The poems keep the reader a little bit off-balance because anything can happen within them and sometimes does," Connery said. "At the same time, the voice of the poems never registers the slightest bit of surprise at what's going on ... the poems have a wonderful imaginative content."

According to Connery, the reading is a good learning experience for students because in addition to the fun and entertainment, there is wisdom and a chance to learn from the poems.

"They don't preach, and they

don't make grand moral statements, but you can tell that the poems are the products of experience and reflection," he said. "You feel like you're learning something and you feel good about learning it, even though you'd be hard pressed to say exactly what it is that you're learning."

Heffernan recommends that students attend the reading to see the poems come alive.

"A reading is an occasion for poetry to come to life in a public setting through the poet's voice," Heffernan said. "I try to make my poems more than print artifacts — they should sound themselves off the page into the reader's ear. A reading is an ... opportunity to make that happen. I want to awaken my poems from the slumber of the page."

The event is free and open to the public. Heffernan's new book "At the Bureau of Divine Music" will be available for purchase there.



# Debate to close campus parking lots

By MISHA MAYHAND AND  
STEPHANIE PREWEDA  
Staff Interns

With the upcoming GOP debate on Nov. 9, faculty and students are worried about the associated effects on parking lots, building and road closures, as well as temporary parking areas on campus.

A number of journalists, production crews, support personnel and event attendees will be filling up much of the parking lots, not only during, but before and after the debate as well.

As an early advisory, Chief of Police Sam Lucido, sent out an e-mail to inform students of the upcoming parking situation.

"Every effort is being made to keep disruptions and inconveniences to students, staff and faculty to a minimum," he said. "With that being said, it is important that you be aware of and plan for the following impacts on campus."

Lucido wants to give the campus community as much notice as possible, so that needed adjustments can be made. He plans to send out final notification on Monday, Nov. 7.

With no concerns about parking during this event, Lucido said the event will be historic for OU.

He believes people will have the patience and understand the importance of this event for the university.

The plan is to have classes flow as normal while the debate proceeds on.

A theatre professor Karen Sheridan believes there will be security issues and many will be inconvenienced.

She said she will not be at the debates, but instead will be in Varner Hall conducting a dress rehearsal.

"I am not canceling classes and rehearsals," Sheridan said. "We are a university and we're still open for business."

Susan Evans, adjunct faculty member in the department of journalism, said the event will require some people to settle for less than ideal parking spots, but for a one-day event, she is confident everyone will cooperate and bask in the publicity the event is bringing to OU.

"This event creates unique opportunities for our journalism and political science students in particular," Evans said.

Gregory Patterson, dance director in the department of music, theatre and dance, is positive that he will have difficulty finding parking.

"I teach in Varner Hall and it is already difficult finding parking, but when they close off P-26 it will be impossible," said Patterson.

Patterson is also aware the entire nation will be watching the debate and hopes that it will bring more attention to campus.



MIKE SANDULA/The Oakland Post

Several parking lots and roads around campus will be closed due to the GOP debate. The parking changes will begin on Nov. 3 at 11 p.m. and will last until Nov. 10.

He agrees with canceling classes under the circumstances.

"It's hard enough to find a parking space as it is," Rhianna Marks, English and linguistics major, said. "I have to get here (to OU) 30-40 minutes early on a regular day. Now I will have to arrive two hours early just to get a spot. The memo confused me. It's just going to be a real hassle."

Charles Rinehart, a special lecturer in communications, will not cancel class that day. Students are allowed three excused absences in his class per semester.

"I understand if students decide to use an absence that day," Rinehart said.

Nick Moetto, a biology major, lives on campus and said that finding a parking spot on campus will not be a problem for him on the day of the debate.

"It won't affect me, I live on campus, and luckily I don't have to work that day, so I'll have no reason to leave campus that day," Moetto said.

It has not been determined whether or not Bear Bus Routes will be impacted.

Lucido recommends that the community check the debate website frequently for parking and transportation updates.

Parking changes will start Tuesday, Nov. 8, at 11 p.m. and will last until Thursday, Nov. 10, at noon.

For more information about parking and road closures on campus during the week of the GOP debate visit [oakland.edu/debateoakland](http://oakland.edu/debateoakland)

## 2012 Wilson and Human Relations Awards

### Nominations are now being accepted.

The Alfred G. and Matilda R. Wilson Awards recognize one female and one male who have contributed as scholars, leaders and responsible citizens to the OU community. **Nominees must:**

- be graduating seniors in winter 2012 or have graduated in summer or fall 2011
- have a strong academic record of 3.5 or higher GPA

The Human Relations Award recognizes a senior student who has made an outstanding contribution to intergroup understanding and conflict resolution in the OU community. **Nominees must:**

- be graduating seniors in winter 2012 or have graduated in summer or fall 2011
- demonstrate service to the community
- have a minimum 2.5 GPA

Nomination forms are available at [oakland.edu/dean\\_awards](http://oakland.edu/dean_awards) or in 144 Oakland Center.

The deadline for both awards is Monday, February 6, 2012.

For questions, contact:

Office of the Dean of Students | 144 Oakland Center | (248) 370-3352



# Q and A with President Russi

By KAY T. NGUYEN  
Editor-in-Chief

The Oakland Post sat down with OU president Gary Russi to talk about the benefits the upcoming Republican Presidential debate will pose for the school.

## What do you hope the school will gain from hosting this event?

Name recognition. There is no question that our goal is to gain visibility, name recognition and gain as many friends as possible. I think this team we have working on it is really a good team and it's really going to be a classy event. We're working with the Republican party — national and state — and CNBC to make it that way.

The exposure is going to be greater than we thought.

## What are some things students can expect to see on campus in addition to CNBC crews?

MSNBC is going to come two days early (on Monday, Nov. 7) and do their national broadcast from the Rec Center. Their entire team will be here. It's all just starting and it's pretty wonderful for Oakland.

## How can students get involved with the debate?

We did get a number of tickets for students and I know Student Congress is working through that effort. The Michigan Republican party has asked for student volunteers, so not only will students get to go to the event per se, but they'll help work it.

## How has the planning process been going?

It's really nice. It's all on track: everything's going well. It's a tremendous amount of work, but OU is going to be on the national stage for multiple days and, my goodness, we could never ever purchase that amount of advertising for OU. It's millions. It's pretty cool.

## Have you been able to talk to other peers at other universities that have also hosted debates?

What they found was that the visibility was amazing and following that when you start to circulate in the community, name recognition gets easier. It's been a good thing for them and we expect the same for us.

## How much earned media attention will be on Oakland University?

We believe all of major local me-

dia will be here — radio, TV, print. The media room has spots for at least 200 media folks. Of course, CNBC and MSNBC will also be here.

## Visibility of Oakland University increased even before news of the debate. We've seen increased television advertising, online advertising and even advertising at Comerica Park during Tiger's games. Has there been a strategic push?

What we're doing is coordinating it through (communications and marketing). We have engaged an outside firm to help us do some of these things. The firm is really integrated, so you're going to see a lot more in the marketplace. You'll see banners everywhere: banners downtown, some crazy stuff.

## A majority of OU alumni are from the tri-county area and stay in Michigan after graduation, is there a push to recruit more outside this area?

We've got a recruiter on the west side (of the state) now. We're expanding out with recruiting, but not only in state. That same recruiter is responsible for Chicago. We are expanding beyond the state of Michigan.

## Campus debate events

### Debate hot spot launch

Nov. 1 - 10  
Pioneer Food Court, Oakland Center

Two multi-media tech towers in the Oakland Center that will have candidate information video feeds from CNBC and a Twitter feed from students, faculty, staff, journalists and members of the community.

### Government in action town hall

Nov. 7, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.  
Gold Rooms A-C, Oakland Center  
The Michigan State Reforms, Restructuring and Reinventing Committee will conduct a hearing on campus. Topic to be decided.

### Your Voice Heard — Live!

Nov. 8, 8-10 p.m.  
Banquet Rooms, Oakland Center  
Hosted by OUSC, the event will feature a variety of performances by OU students. The event is hosted by WDIV reporter and OU alum Lauren Podell. This will be an opportunity to get involved in politics, campaigns and the democratic process.

csa@oakland.edu  
248-370-2400  
Center for Student Activities

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[www.oakland.edu/csa](http://www.oakland.edu/csa)

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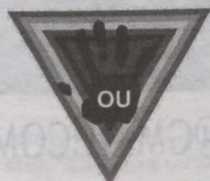
Event details on the  
LVC GrizzOrgs page

Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>, Noon to 1:00pm, Fireside Lounge

Please send questions to: [akbrown@oakland.edu](mailto:akbrown@oakland.edu)

### Students, Administrators & Faculty for Equality

Are you or your group interested in being S.A.F.E. Allies?



Contact Grace Wojcik to schedule a training:



[gawojcik@oakland.edu](mailto:gawojcik@oakland.edu)

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# Focus on the debate: Student profile

## Campus leader and autoworker zeroes in on jobs, the economy

By KAY T. NGUYEN  
Editor-in-Chief

The theme of the upcoming GOP debate is "jobs and the economy" and Phil Berard, WXOU's general manager, is no stranger to dealing with both of those issues.

Berard, 27, is a senior cinema studies major who has to juggle his jobs as a student leader and an autoworker with classes. He works a shift from 5 p.m. to 4:30 a.m. Monday through Thursday at General Motors' Lake Orion plant.

He estimates he gets about five hours of sleep on most days, since he also takes class and handles his managerial duties at the campus radio station.

"I don't sleep on Thursdays because of my schedule," said Berard, who finds time to host a two-hour jazz program on WXOU every Friday morning. "It's easier to stay awake than to get an hour and a half of sleep. Homework happens on the weekends."

It's a grueling schedule, but one that was necessary for Berard after being unemployed for two years.

"It gets myself out of the hole I ended up in because I'm back in school and didn't have a full time job for some time," Berard said.

Berard grew weary of his path after transferring colleges multiple times and decided to take time off of school to work in the auto industry in 2003.

"I was just trying to find my way through life," Berard said. "So I began working in the factories of the auto industry at 19."

He's had to deal with the employment woes related to the economy and, correspondingly, the hard-hit auto industry. In 2004, Berard was working at Bentler Automotive in Galesburg, Mich.

The company underwent rounds of layoffs after the price of steel tripled, Berard said. It was the first time he sensed a change in American manufacturing.

"When China made a mass buy on steel while their economy was booming, they had to scale back some jobs at my factory," Berard said. "All of the sudden the contracts we had signed had predetermined prices that just went out the door."

Originally choosing to go to school on the west side of the state, Berard moved to southeast Michigan to try out college once again at Oakland Community College, but a job offer from General Motors in 2006 lured him back to the assembly lines once more.

Berard came to OU in 2009 after being laid off by GM in February of that year. Berard had been working at the GM Pontiac Assembly Center, which was shut down,

and had helped produce the Chevy Silverado truck.

The skills Berard learned as a relief operator, which required him to complete a different job every day, has carried over into his time at Oakland University.

"You had to adapt quickly in radio and that's what I was good at so it helps with my college radio career here," Berard said. "A lot of things come your way."

Every now and then, he finds time to mentor radio students at Avondale High School.

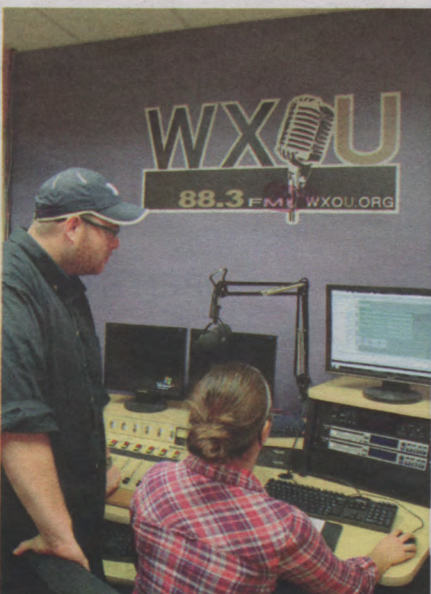
"Phil works really hard," WXOU program director Katie Hepfinger said. "But I do sometimes wish he were around the station more so we could work on more radio projects together, but I understand why he has to work."

He said jobs and the economy do remain on the forefront of his consciousness because of his situation. Though it takes time away from his studies, he said remaining at GM could give him some crucial tuition assistance.

"I went from having no jobs to having two jobs," Berard said. "Sometimes I have those 'grass is always greener moments.'"

Though he identifies himself as a democrat, he's hoping presidential hopefuls will have the right answers for solving the country's economic problems.

"I think for all of us that are hoping to find lucrative jobs, it's important that we reinvigorate the country with manufacturing jobs," Berard said.



KAY NGUYEN/The Oakland Post  
Berard works in studio with Katie Hepfinger to edit audio before broadcasting.



KAY NGUYEN/The Oakland Post  
Even with his busy schedule, Berard calls the award-winning station, WXOU, home.



KAY NGUYEN/The Oakland Post  
Berard works in studio with Katie Hepfinger to edit audio before broadcasting.

OAKLANDSVP@GMAIL.COM





KEVIN ROMANCHIK / The Oakland Post

The women's volleyball team beat both rival Oral Roberts and Southern Utah in straight sets in consecutive nights last weekend. The Golden Grizzlies have an overall record of 14-10 with a summit league record of 8-6. They are finishing the season with games against South Dakota and UMKC on the road, and IUPUI and Western Illinois at home.

## Volleyball team sweeps weekend

By **SETH WALKER**

Staff Reporter

The Oakland women's volleyball team concluded an eventful weekend with two wins over Oral Roberts and Southern Utah.

On Friday night, the Golden Grizzlies beat Oral Roberts in straight sets 25-22, 25-23 and 25-22.

OU overcame early deficits in the first and third sets to win the match.

Head coach Rob Beam called the meeting with ORU a "very well contested match," and didn't expect anything less from a rival team in first place in the Summit League.

"Both teams played at a high level," Beam said. "The (OU) ball control was good, (and) the defense was good."

The front row for OU came up big with a solid performance.

Middle hitters, Jenna Lange and Brittany Holbrook, along with right side hitter Allison Bell combined for 22 kills and nine total blocks. Bell and Lange teamed up for a block to start a run in which the Grizzlies scored three straight points to win the first set.

Bell also recorded her team leading 17th service ace of the season.

Lange however credits the defense of the back row for the success of the front row hitters.

"Our defense just gave us a lot of opportunities," Lange said. "They had some great digs and so we got some great transition

plays, so we really just owe it to them."

Defensively, Alli Kirk led the team with 19 digs while Meghan Bray had 12 to go along with her seven kills.

The following night, Kirk and Bray both reached career milestones as the Grizzlies beat Southern Utah in straight sets.

Kirk reached 1,000 career digs in the first set which the Grizzlies won 25-17. In the second set, Bray recorded career kill number 1,000 on her way to helping her team with that set 25-18.

"It's just an honor," Bray said. "The setters are very good on our team and putting the ball where they need to put it."

The Grizzlies were already in a celebratory mood after these milestones were reached, but were able to officially celebrate after winning the third set 25-16.

"Meghan and Alli both have been key contributors their entire career since their freshmen year," Beam said. "To get to a thousand digs and a thousand kills on the same night is pretty special, I've never had that happen before."

Kirk said that she and Bray were racing to see who could reach their milestone first. "I beat her, but I'm really proud of her," Kirk said. "She deserved it."

Bell led the team with 11 kills while Lange had 10, along with a solo block. Each had three block assists.

The Golden Grizzlies controlled the entire match as they trailed only briefly at the start of the first and third sets.



KEVIN ROMANCHIK / The Oakland Post

Alli Kirk reached a career milestone of 1,000 digs with the win in straight sets against Oral Roberts. Meghan Bray had friendly competition with her.

"After the emotional win last night, to come back with that amount of focus and intensity definitely shows some maturity for our team," Beam said.

The Grizzlies are now 14-10 (8-6 Summit League). With four matches remaining in the regular season, they are currently in fourth place in the league.

Next week, the Golden Grizzlies play South Dakota on Nov. 4 and UMKC on the road on Nov. 6.

They conclude the regular season with

home matches against IUPUI on Nov. 11 and Western Illinois on Nov. 12 for Senior Night.

The team is looking to reach the Summit League Tournament for the first time.

Kirk has not lost sight of the team's overall goal, even after reaching her personal milestone.

"This season is going to be highlighted by us going to the conference tournament for the first time," Kirk said, "That's the accomplishment I'm looking forward to."



# Even with postseason success, Tigers have holes

## COLUMN

With the St. Louis Cardinals' improbable run to the World Series, the baseball season is officially over and Detroit Tigers fans can once again begin to consider the 'what ifs' and the potential for next year.

The Tigers were knocked out of the playoffs by the eventual runner-up in the World Series, the Texas Rangers, and struggled during the playoffs with injuries and inconsistencies.

Newly acquired outfielder Delmon Young and designated hitter Victor Martinez each had oblique injuries, All-star catcher Alex Avila had knee problems, not to mention outfielder Brennan Boesch who was out before the playoffs with a thumb injury, and outfielder Magglio Ordonez re-injuring his ankle.

A bullpen that was so sound in the regular season dwindled down to just Phil Coke, Joaquin Benoit and Jose Valverde and bats just couldn't come through in big spots.

What if, right?

Now that the season is over, the Tigers



**Mike Horan**  
Senior Reporter

and General Manager Dave Dombrowski, fresh off a new four-year deal, have some immediate decisions to make.

Veteran free agents Carlos Guillen, Ordonez and Brad Penny have more than likely played their last games with the Tigers, unless they take huge pay cuts, which would open up some cap space.

Young, who was acquired at the trade deadline from the Minnesota Twins, should be resigned and Valverde's \$9 million option has already been picked up.

That leaves utility man Ramon Santiago and relief pitcher Joel Zumaya.

Santiago is still producing and is solid defensively at second base when called upon, so for the right price, the Tigers should resign him. Zumaya on the other hand had so much potential, but has been plagued by injuries and should not be resigned.

**Now that the season is over, the Tigers and General Manager Dave Dombrowski, fresh off a new four-year deal, have some immediate decisions to make.**

With the in house players taken care of, the Tigers now need to bolster their line up with a back up catcher (so Avila's knees aren't destroyed by age 30), a relief pitcher to sure-up the bull pen, a starting pitcher to fill the five spot in the rotation and a second and third baseman.

The most obvious need is a catcher. Avila caught 18 consecutive games down the stretch in his first year of full duty catch-

ing and seemed exhausted by the end of the year.

If the Tigers don't find a feasible back up, Avila could be hurting again.

As for the pitching staff, relief pitching is a big part of what killed the Tigers and got the Rangers to the World Series. The Tigers need to add another dominant arm to the pen that can work some innings to get to Benoit and Valverde.

Adding another arm to the rotation could be filled through free agency, but top prospect Jacob Tuner is also an option.

There aren't many great second basemen in this year's free agent class, so Santiago and Ryan Raburn could be paraded out up the middle.

At third, Brandon Inge might have one more year left in him, but the Tigers desperately need someone who can hit and field at the position.

If the Tigers add a few more pieces to the pitching staff and can get a decent third baseman, along with a back up for Avila, these 'what ifs' could turn into realities and we could be looking at the Tigers fifth World Series title.

## Women's basketball team wins exhibition game

By **SETH WALKER and JORDAN REED**  
Staff Reporter and Staff Intern

The complete and healthy Oakland women's basketball team defeated Ferris State 80-75 in an exhibition game at the O'Rena on Saturday.

Junior Bethany Watterworth scored a game-high 32 points to go along with four rebounds, three assists and only one turn-over.

"We had a lot of great passes," Watterworth said. "My teammates fed me well when I had a shorter guard on me and we picked it up."

Sophomore Zakiya Minifee contributed with an all-round performance which includes 16 points, a team-high six rebounds and a team-leading five steals.

Minifee said that she always tries to enter every game with "a sense of passion and determination."

"I get in there (for a rebound) and fight hard and every type of ball that goes up, I'm thinking, 'it's mine, I'm going to get that ball,'" Minifee said. "That type of fight and passion you see just comes from a strong desire to win the game."

Throughout the game, head coach Beckie Francis displayed OU's depth by playing 11 different players included three who suffered

season ending injuries last season.

Sophomore Victoria Lipscomb, along with freshman Jenna Bachouche and Amy Carlton all say their first in-game action since early last season.

"Lipscomb looked solid, I was really happy (with her play)," Francis said. "Carlton came in and gave us some good minutes with her scrapiness and it's nice to have the depth back."

Coming off the bench, Lipscomb had four points, a team-high two blocks and a steal which she converted into a breakaway to give the Grizzlies and 23-18 lead in the first half.

Freshman Payton Apsey, in her first game at OU, was one of four Grizzlies with four rebounds along with Watterworth, Lipscomb and senior Brittany Carnago.

This exhibition game was the first opportunity for Francis to evaluate how her players played together as a team this season.

"I was trying to get a lot of people different playing time and it's really hard to do, especially this early against the first opponent," Francis said. "We'd go on some nice runs with one unit, and I could have kept that unit out, but I tried different units."

After the exhibition victory, the Grizzlies will now have a couple more weeks to prepare for their Nov. 13 regular season opener on the road against George Mason.

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## Occupy Detroit in third week

By **ALI ARMSTRONG**  
Local Editor

The Occupy Movement has spread to Detroit.

Equipped with tents, signs, bullhorns and even pumpkins for Halloween, metro Detroiters who are part of the Occupy Detroit movement have been camped out at Grand Circus Park since Friday, Oct. 14.

Detroit's interpretation of the Occupy Wall Street movement hit the city last month when a large crowd gathered in front of a Bank of America to protest continuing home foreclosures in the face of an economic decline.

Protestors carried signs, waved banners and shouted slogans as they demonstrated.

The protest was organized by Occupy Detroit, an offshoot of Occupy Wall Street, which began Sept. 17 as a small grassroots movement after a small group of people camped out in lower Manhattan to protest the Wall Street bailout.

"From what I've seen, it seems like they have the right idea, but it's coming across as silly and ridiculous," Cortney Biskner, psychology major at Oakland University, said.

The slogan for the movement, 'we are the 99 percent,' refers to difference in wealth between the wealthiest one percent and the rest of the population.

Many of the demonstrators feel that the country's banks and top wage earners hold a disproportionate share of money and power

over the government and economy. Participants are protesting for social and economic equality, corporate greed, corruption and influence over the government and lobbyists.

Supporters of the movement in Detroit organized Occupy Detroit through social media websites like Facebook. The movement's Facebook page currently has over 8,900 'likes.'

The campaign was officially launched when the first movement was held Oct. 14.

Supporters gathered in front of the Spirit of Detroit statue and marched to Grand Circus Park to occupy the area indefinitely. Hundreds of activists joined the movement as they marched down Woodward Avenue and set up camp in Grand Circus Park. Protestors said they may occupy the area for up to 60 days.

Participants said they wanted a revolution, proclaiming that they were fed up with corporate greed, social injustice and the gulf between the rich and poor.

Some of the signs at occupy Detroit read: 'capitalism in the crisis,' 'end greed,' 'save public education' and 'R.I.P. American dream.'

"I decided to attend the Occupy Detroit protest because I absolutely hate the way society is run today," Deena Borza, philosophy major at OU, said. "I attend so my voice can be heard."

More than 1,000 communities, including many Michigan cities, are in various stages



Photo courtesy of Deena Borza

Demonstrators gathered in Detroit as part of the Occupy Detroit movement, a spin-off of Occupy Wall Street, to protest against corporate greed.

of occupation or planning a similar movement. Demonstrations have already been held in Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo and Lansing.

Several other spin-off groups have already formed around Michigan. Groups like Occupy Ann Arbor, Occupy Monroeville, Occupy Flint and Occupy Grand Rapids are planning rallies and meet and greets all over the state. Occupy Wall Street has spread to over 100 cities in the United States and

sparked action in over 1,500 cities globally.

"People are just now starting to realize that something needs to change," Borza said. "People are starting to get fed up ... The rich become richer and the poor become poorer. It's unjust."

Those interested in Occupy Detroit can visit Grand Circus Park at any time to inquire about encampment. More information can also be found on their Facebook page or [www.occupy-detroit.us](http://www.occupy-detroit.us)

## Kid Rock announces tour to benefit charity

By **ISABELLA SHAYA**  
Staff Intern

The Kid Rock Foundation is extending their Detroit pride with the launch of the Kid Rock "Care" tour by reaching out to charities across the nation in an effort to support those in need.

In 2008, Rock established the Kid Rock Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to raising money to benefit and raise awareness of local and regional charities.

With the release of his new single "Care" on his recently launched album "Born Free," Rock set the stage for a tour unlike any other.

Rock came up with the idea

for the tour to coincide with the launch of his new single 'Care' from his 2010 platinum selling album 'Born Free.'

At each tour stop, the Kid Rock Foundation will donate money to a local charity with the help and support of local radio stations.

"Coming from someone who works at a radio station, philanthropic events like that are always a big part of what we like to do," Emily Cutlip, communication major, and Assistant Program Director at WXOU said. "It is always beneficial to have a big name like Kid Rock attached to your organization."

Rock will also be visiting smaller venues like the Ryman The-

atre, in Nashville and the Beacon Theatre in New York. This shows a change from Rock's 'Born Free Tour' which had him playing some of the country's biggest venues.

"I think going to small venues is awesome, just to support the little guys," Patrick Cymbalski, French major and WXOU DJ, said. "There is also more personal interaction between the artist and the crowd, so it feels more genuine."

Elyse Ruen, OU graduate and J.R. Turnbull Communications employee, has been working on the 'Care' tour. She has been given the task of making sure the foundation's money goes to benefit those in need for the 'Care' tour.

"My job is to work with the

radio stations in each city he is performing in, and they help recommend different charities within those cities that they want Kid Rock to give money to," Ruen said.

The Kid Rock Foundation has dedicated much of their efforts to helping disadvantaged children, victims of war and natural disasters and those suffering from illness.

"I talk with the charities and tell them what Kid Rock is doing and they fill out an application," Ruen said. "All of the applications go in front of Kid Rock and he decides which charities he will give to."

The charities Rock handpicked show their gratitude by writing a

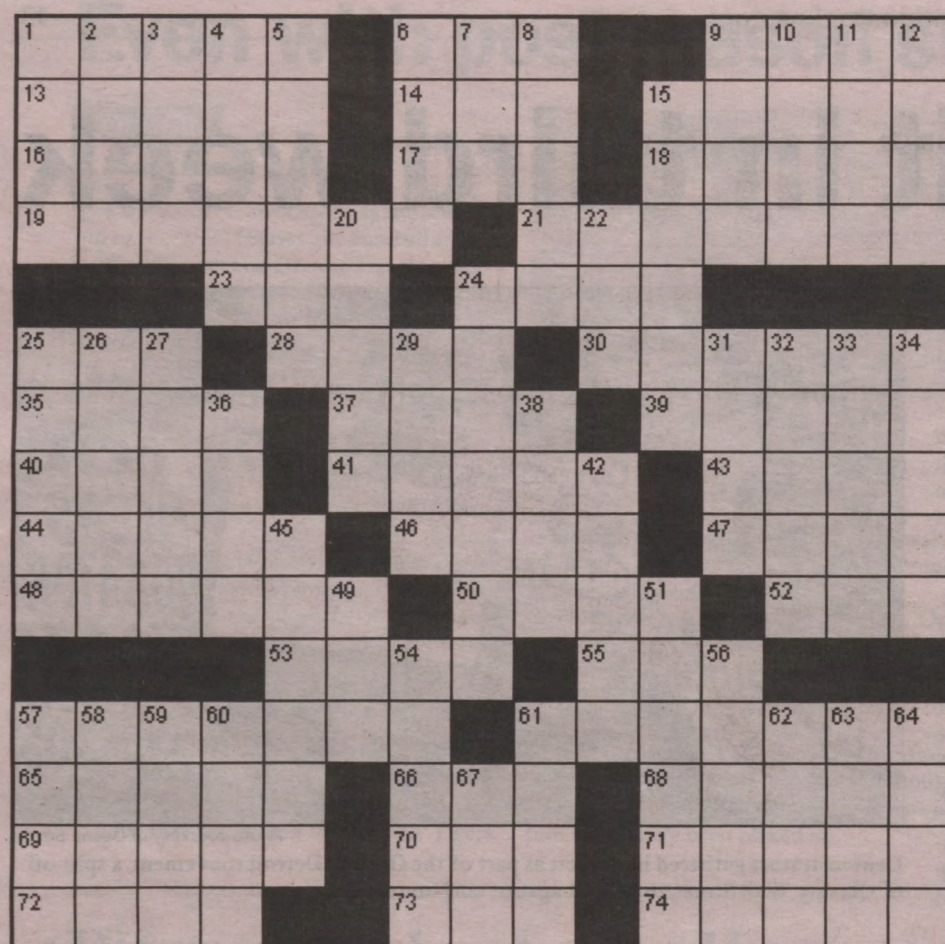
letter to thank the foundation for their support.

"Each charity is submitting personal stories of who the money has gone to, so you really get to see from the perspective of the people the money is helping, so it is not just going into a fund and you have no idea who it is benefitting," Ruen said.

Kid Rock travels the nation on his "Care" tour, with his first stop in Atlanta, Georgia on Nov. 10.

"I think anything he has to do with charity is awesome and I think it's super sincere, especially now that he has been doing it for a while," Cymbalski said. "I'm looking forward to see how that all works out."





## Across

1. Begin  
 6. Health resort near a spring  
 9. Luminescence  
 13. Mischievous fairy  
 14. Assistance  
 15. Solitary  
 16. Arrange to be parallel or straight  
 17. Hawaiian garland  
 18. Kind of puzzle  
 19. Remainder  
 21. Sincere  
 23. Lair  
 24. Muffle  
 25. Condensation  
 28. Mature  
 30. Break out  
 35. Submerged coral ridge  
 37. Compressed matted fabric  
 39. Symbolic emblem  
 40. Relating to the mouth  
 41. Languish  
 43. Smack  
 44. Exists  
 46. Leg joint  
 47. Small open pie  
 48. Permissible difference  
 50. Microbe  
 52. Wily

53. Income or profit

55. Vitality

57. Mild powdered seasoning

61. Spray can

65. Mistake

66. Buddy

68. Proverb

69. Strainer

70. Nocturnal bird

71. Writing style

72. Finishing line for a foot race

73. Tonality

74. Church officer

## Down

1. Pole used to support rigging

2. Thin slab of fired clay

3. Center around which something rotates

4. Inflexible

5. Formal bid

6. Exchange of property for money

7. Pastry item

8. Farewell remark

9. Narrow secluded valley

10. Part of the ear

11. Burden

12. Direction

15. Take into custody

20. Become one

22. Consumed

24. Motley assortment of things

25. Oddly comical

26. Spooky

27. Fabric pattern or structure

29. A secret look

31. Monetary value

32. Book of maps

33. Smooth lustrous jewel

34. Vacant

36. Moved through the air

38. Large woody plant

42. The courage to carry on

45. Sarcasm

49. Large ox

51. Optical illusion

54. Tropical tree

56. Good example

57. Nuisance

58. Song for solo voice

59. Homework, in short

60. Wander

61. Friendly nation

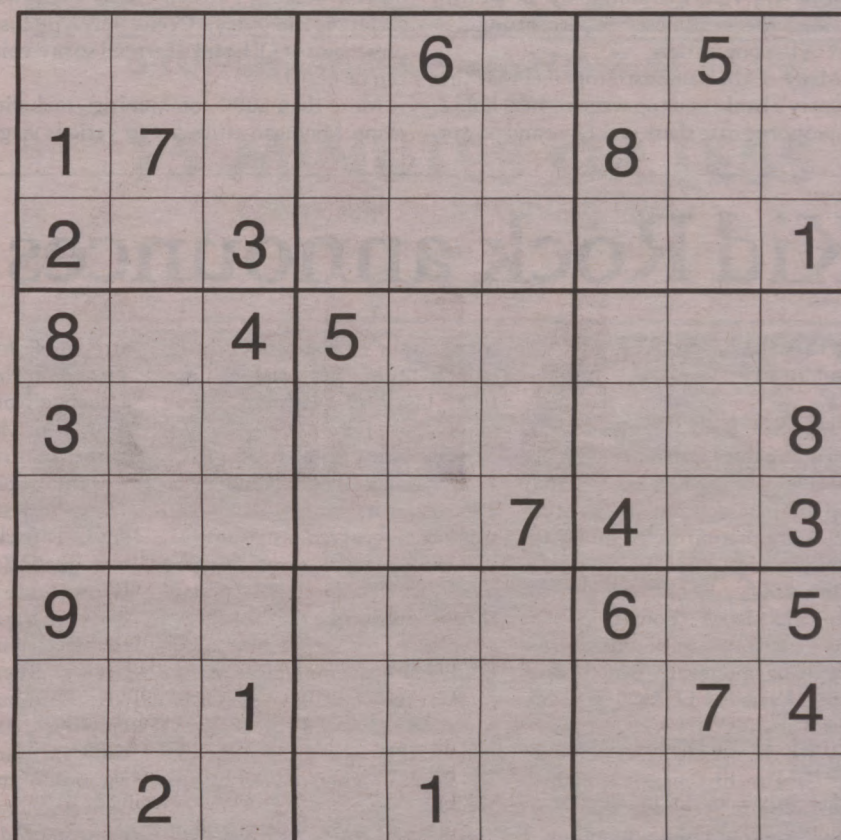
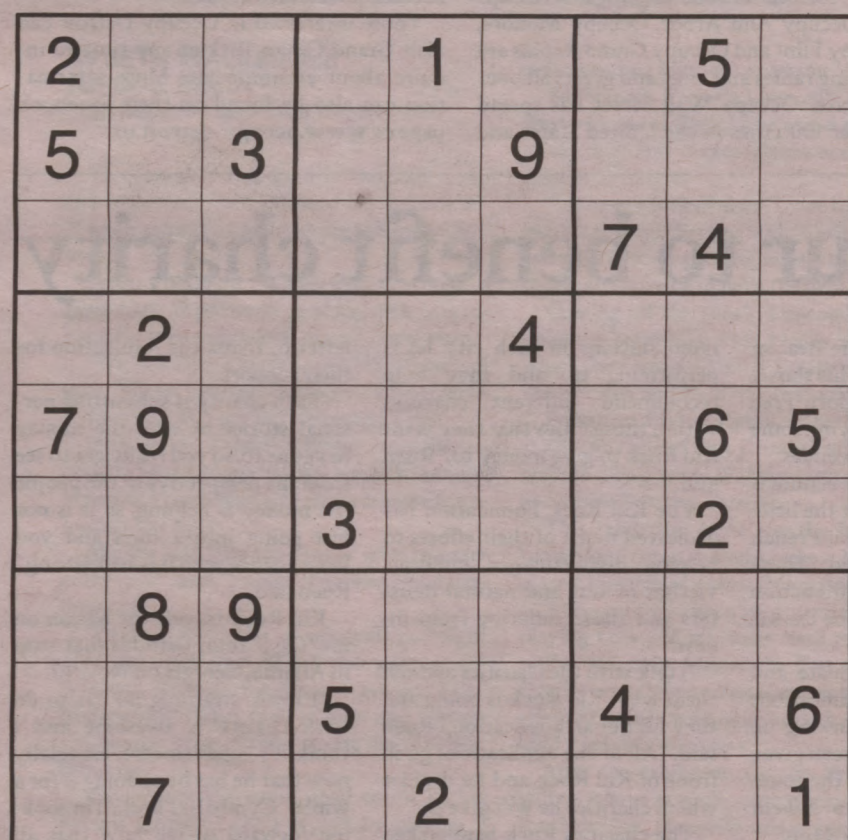
62. Grains of rock

63. Fiend

64. Facial expression of contempt or scorn

67. Wonderment

Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 block contain all digits 1 through 9.





## Meet the GOP stand-ins

The GOP debate will be held at Oakland University's O'rena on Nov. 9 and will be aired on CNBC from 8 to 10 p.m. In order for the night to run as smoothly as possible, CNBC is staging a six-hour dress rehearsal the day before featuring members of the OU community as stand-ins for the candidates. The Oakland Post spoke with four of them.



**Herman Cain:**



**Torres McLean,**  
MPA graduate student



**Ron Paul:**



**Steve Wynne,**  
English secondary education,  
German K-12

Torres McLean, a graduate student working on his master of public administration, will stand in as candidate Herman Cain.

Erin Sudrovec, the associate director of alumni engagement, who helped organize the stand-ins, encouraged McLean to volunteer.

"I thought it was an interesting thing to volunteer for," McLean said. "It's a great opportunity for Oakland University students to play an active role in history."

McLean said that, although he's a busy college student with two jobs, he tries to keep up with politics through online news websites and watching the news on TV. He also votes every year.

During his undergrad, McLean said he was involved with AMA, the student senate and community service.

"I'm happy I'm a part of it," McLean said. "I can look back in a couple of years and remind myself that I did that and pass it on to friends and family."

Steve Wynne, a junior double majoring in English secondary education and German K-12 education, will represent Ron Paul.

Wynne, a peer mentor for Career Services, said he found out about the event months beforehand when he saw it published in The Oakland Post.

As a cell group leader for the Honors College's mandatory colloquium class for freshman, Wynne wanted to bring his students to the debate, but didn't realize the

screening process would be so stringent. "I am absolutely ecstatic to be chosen for the event," he said. "I can't even grasp it."

Wynne described his political standing as liberal. He is one of the founding members of "Rochester PRIDE," a program against substance abuse and self harm.

He said he is more internationally-minded than most people, having spent a year studying abroad in Germany and enjoys learning about different cultures.

**Newt Gingrich:**

**Kevin Stephens,**  
Secondary education



**Jon Huntsman:**

**Simon Obarto III,**  
Communications alumni



Kevin Stephens, a transfer student from Grand Valley State University, is pursuing a degree in secondary education with a specialization in history and social sciences and will represent Newt Gingrich.

"People say I have an average face that looks like everyone," Stephens said.

Persuaded by associate professor of political science Terri Towner, Stephens said he was interested in the topic and applied shortly after finding out about the opportunity.

"I think (my experience as a stand-in) will serve as an excellent example if I'm teaching kids about politics, government and whatnot," he said.

With the vast array of students at the university, Stephens said he's glad he can represent the non-traditional population.

As for what he wants to see candidates discuss, Stephens said he is not a firm believer that government can create jobs but would like to know the specific details of their plans.

Simon Obarto III, a May 2010 graduate with a bachelor's degree in communication who now works as a staff recruiter for Epitex, will be Jon Huntsman's stand-in.

"I heard about it through a friend of mine," Obarto said. "They had received a notification on Facebook about it, so I went to the OU website and filled out my info."

Obarto said he has always been interested in politics.

"I like to think that my vote counts," he said. "I'm a very opinionated person."

He said he enjoys meeting new people and helping people out. Pertaining to the election, Obarto said he's excited to play a role in it and hopes that he will get a chance to meet Huntsman.

— By SARAH WOJCIK, Features Editor  
Candidate photos courtesy of Getty Images



# Halloween is new experience for some

## International students encounter cultural differences

By SARAH WOJCIK  
Features Editor

Candy, costumes, jack-o'-lanterns and scary movies are familiar Halloween elements to most Americans. Taking a step back, the holiday is strange but fun to international students.

With a growing number of international students on campus at Oakland University and a need to create a positive immersion experience, there are a variety of outlets students can tap into, including English as a Second Language (ESL) club and events sponsored by the International Students and Scholars Office.

The ESL club administration, a culturally diverse medley of students, works to bring international students together on a weekly outing.

Yuko Kinjo of Japan is the president, Priyanka Sevak of India is the vice president, Gustavo Pessutti of Brazil is the secretary and Audra Lord, the ESL graduate assistant, is the treasurer.

This semester, ESL club has hosted a game night and a bonfire, during which they made s'mores and carved jack-o'-lanterns.

Some members, like Sevak, experienced Halloween for the first time.

"I didn't hear anything about Halloween in India," Sevak said. "In India, the pumpkin is not grown up, so when I first saw a pumpkin, I was in shock to see one this big."

As a degree-seeking student studying accounting, Sevak will have the opportunity to experience more American holidays, including Christmas.

Kinjo came to OU during the summer semester and became president of the ESL club shortly after the fall semester began.

"I think the purpose of ESL club is having American experience," Kinjo said. "We have fun together and speak English."

Kinjo said that planning events is difficult for her, but she is proud of herself when an event is successful.

Audra Lord praised Kinjo's leadership ability, saying that she has a knack for getting people excited about events and bringing students together.

Their events are generally on Fridays. They are working on going to a Red Wings game, cider mill and making gingerbread houses in December, Lord and Kinjo said.

"Anybody can join, (ESL club is) open to all OU students," Lord said, "(especially) people who want to make international friends. Part of the purpose is to practice English."

On Saturday, the ISSO hosted a Halloween fun night in the Banquet Rooms of the OC. A large showing of international students and domestic students attended the event for a brief history of Halloween, refreshments, games, pumpkin painting and a costume contest.

**"I didn't hear anything about Halloween in India. In India, the pumpkin is not grown up, so when I first saw a pumpkin, I was in shock to see one this big."**

— Priyanka Sevak,  
Accounting major

Among the students were Amir Kazemi, who is in the process of getting his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering, and Taraneh Matloob, who is seeking a Ph.D. in children's

literature.

Matloob said she enjoys seeing her friends and that she likes the color orange for Halloween.

Both students are from Iran and staying with Sue and Nazar Keer in their Clarkston home. Now in their third year of hosting students, the Keers became aware of the opportunity through their church, Auburn Hills Christian Center.

"I knew we'd love it," Sue said and explained that they love different cultures and cuisine and helping international students assimilate into American culture.

Shaina Kalasho, a cell group leader in the Honor College's mandatory colloquium class for freshmen, brought her group to the event as well.

"I'm happy about the turn out," Kalasho said. "I really enjoyed the activities as well. The music and food were really great. Overall, we loved it."

To join ESL club, visit their Facebook page. For more information about upcoming events through the ISSO, visit [www.oakland.edu/isso](http://www.oakland.edu/isso)



SARAH WOJCIK/The Oakland Post

David Rich, a sophomore studying mechanical engineering, came to ISSO's event wearing an ostrich rider costume.

## CLASSIFIEDS

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# Students learn sign language through new club

By **KEVIN GRAHAM**  
Staff Reporter

Examples of body language are commonplace. Think about every time the third-base coach signals to a hitter or when Matt Stafford calls an audible at the line of scrimmage — and that's just sports.

Things get a little more interesting when one takes this concept beyond signals and learns a full language. That's the aim of the Social Signing Society at Oakland University.

Members of the new club learn

American Sign Language every Friday in the Oakland Center.

While it makes sense to learn how to sign if a person knows someone that is hearing-impaired, said the group's president, freshman Alissa Bandalene, there are many situations in which gestural communication can be useful.

"We use hand gestures a lot when we are speaking," said Bandalene, a chemistry major. "When we are trying to get someone's attention, in work places that it is hard to communicate in, particularly medical fields."

It might be easy to assume it's

difficult to acclimate to something like sign language because we are so used to speaking. Bandalene said this isn't necessarily true.

"Even if you think in English, it is easy to cross over into ASL," said Bandalene. "We use gestures when talking in English and ASL gives actual meaning to the gestures."

The students use a variety of themed activities to help each other get new signs down. They are working on food signals with the goal of ordering a meal at a restaurant with the help of a

translator later in the semester.

Like any language, ASL can be hard to learn with our immersing oneself in the vocabulary and culture. In order to help with this aspect, members attended a Deaf Day event at a local mall.

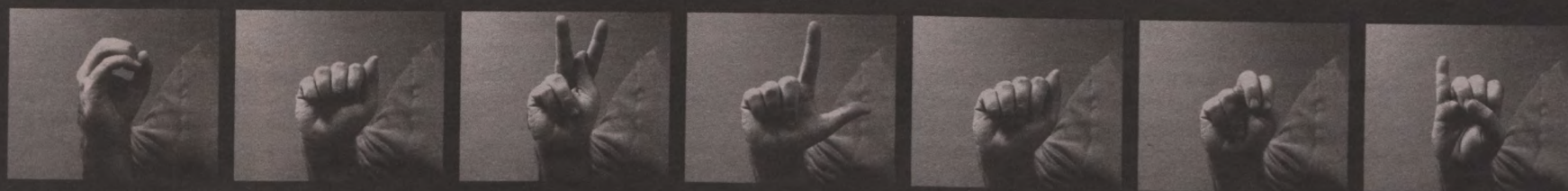
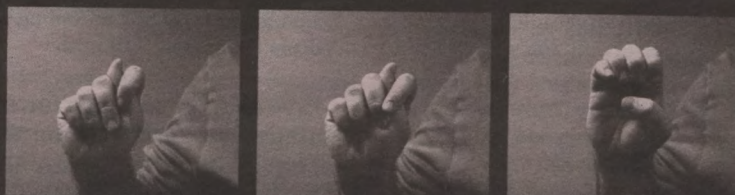
"It was really interesting for all of us because that was the first time for most where we have been in a crowded mall and it was dead silent," said studio art major junior Jordan Philka, the group's secretary. "Our experience there was enjoyable because all of the people there were very nice and appreciative of us taking in pieces

of their culture and not judging us because we are part of the hearing community."

The group's near-term plans include hosting a free "silent lunch." Judy Vardon, who has been deaf since the age of two, will also come speak to the students during the winter semester in sign language about her family's experience being the subject of an episode of Extreme Makeover Home Edition.

Information on the meeting times and locations can be found on the group's Facebook page, earch "Social Signing Society."

op



Hand Model STEVE WISEMAN / Photos by NICHOLE SEGUIN





Photo courtesy of Sean Varicalli

## Music made by Golden Grizzlies

### The HOT PANTS

MEMBERS: Sean Varicalli,  
*Communication major*  
Jake King,  
*Kettering University*  
Kyle Kurel,  
*Macomb CC*

#### ABOUT:

The Hot Pants formed after the demise of the band, The Basics, and a phone call from a promoter with a generous offer.

"We formed on accident really," lead vocalist and drummer, Sean Varicalli said. "This promoter called me and it paid really well so we had to quickly throw a line-up together and Kyle and I had just gotten out of bands for the first time so we had to throw a line up together and play this show. Ever since then it kind of stuck."

The Hot Pants consists of mainly cover songs and sticks to the alternative and classic rock genre. They play shows at local bars and festivals.

#### ALBUMS:

One Size Fits All EP, released August 2010 available on iTunes and Amazon.

#### LISTEN:

thepants.bandcamp.com

#### WHAT'S NEXT:

The band has a few shows scheduled in November, but because of the winter season fast approaching the bar scene slows down. Also, listeners can expect another EP to be released within the coming year.

**"I just love the friendship that you build with your band mates. It's like a brotherhood, once you play music together. Even though for us, it's totally a hobby, it's still fun — we just love performing."**

— Sean Varicalli,  
Vocalist and Drummer

Email [scene@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:scene@oaklandpostonline.com) for a chance to be featured in a future segment.

— Compiled by Ashley Allison, Staff Intern

## Exotic ensembles form a night of World Music

By SARAH JO HUNTON  
Staff Reporter

Four World Music ensembles will be presenting their first concert of the academic year Nov. 4 in Varner Hall. The concert begins at 8 p.m.

Akwaaba, an African drum ensemble, Ngoma, an African xylophone ensemble, Pan-Jumbies, a steel drum band and Pan-Jazz, a collection of steel drum combos, will be playing at the concert.

Sean Dobbins directs Pan-Jazz, Kofi Ameyaw directs Akwaaba and Mark Stone directs Ngoma and Pan-Jumbies.

Ghanaian dancer Sulley Imoro, former special lecturer in world music Marie Kujenga and trumpet player Quincy Stewart will serve as guest artists on this concert.

The first half of the concert will contain African music. Following intermission, groups will be performing steel drum music from Trinidad.

**"We all have so much fun on stage, and I find it becomes contagious when the joy spreads to the audience. Often I can't articulate how happy I am when I am performing African music."**

— Anna Falkowski,  
music major

This concert marks the first time that OU will feature the music of the mbira.

The African instrument consists of metal keys of varying sizes attached to a wooden box that allow the tones the metal keys produce to resonate.

Stone is also the coordinator of World Music and Percussion at OU.

He believes that this concert is important to offer at OU because it exposes community members to musical traditions that they may be unfamiliar with.

According to Stone, audience members will walk away with more than knowledge of a different genre of music.

"Of course, many types of music have (a sense of healing) but it is something very particular to the music we are playing on this concert," Stone said. "People who come will feel the uplifting spirit of the music."

The word "jumbie" translates from into English as meaning "spirit."

"Ngoma" means the arts, and encompasses music and dance. There is no

separate word for music in the South African language.

Stephanie Perlaki, a double major in music education and percussion performance, will be performing in Pan-Jumbies.

She said she enjoys not only showing the community the music of different cultures, but also that learning about the music of other cultures changes the way she listens to, performs and perceives every type of music.

The method in which the students learn the music is also unique.

"In class, we learn everything from Mark by memory," Perlaki said. "He gives us sheet music after we learn it so that we have it as a reference, but the process of learning and memorizing it presents different challenges."

Music major Anna Falkowski, is a member of Akwaaba and Ngoma.

"We all have so much fun on stage, and I find it becomes contagious when the joy spreads to the audience," Falkowski said. "Often I can't articulate how happy I am when I am performing African music."

In addition to serving as a performance for the audience and a culminating concert for the students in their respective ensemble courses, the concert will also be a farewell concert to Kujenga.

She is moving to the Eastern United States.

"We have a sense of community among the music professors, as well as our students," Stone said. "Marie Kujenga has contributed so much to the development to our World Music program."

The next world music concert will be part of the Professional Artist Series.

The concert held on Jan. 28 will feature Native American singer and drummer Joe Reilly.

He will perform traditional Native American music as well as original compositions.

Tickets for the concert are on sale at the Varner Hall box office and will be available before concert as well.

#### Box Office Details

Friday, Nov. 4

Varner Recital Hall  
8-10 p.m. All Seats: \$8

[www.oakland.edu/mtd](http://www.oakland.edu/mtd)



## Addiction starts at \$60 per disc

By BRIAN FIGURSKI

Staff Reporter/Squad sniper specialist

On Nov. 8, World War 3 begins.

No, not the literal destruction of our physical planet. This day marks the release of the third installment of the Call of Duty: Modern Warfare series, the eighth game with the COD namesake and the umpteenth time I'll shell out well over \$100 to this juggernaut company.

In a sense, it could be the end of the world when no one in that target demographic shows up to work that day. Or for the next month.

I remember way back in May, my roommate harked from his perpendicular bedroom, "Brian! New Call of Duty!"

"No," I replied. I knew what was going to happen.

For about a week, I ignored him each time he suggested I microwave some popcorn so we could watch the two-minute trailer.

Finally, I caved in.

It was beautiful. Glorious. Tears formed in the corner of my eyes at the exploding buildings and hailstorms of bullets.

Lets get one thing straight: I am not an avid gamer.

I rarely have the time to dedicate to sitting around and clicking buttons. I'm still working on defeating Tetris. Those bricks fall faster than a Russian airplane.

With that being said, this franchise is sucking the life out of me, along with the squadrons of basement hoarding nerds across the globe, using numb3rs ln pl4c3 0f l3tt3rs for our super-nifty call signs and titles.

### Did you know?

The use of symbols as letters isn't only used for censorship. 'L337 5P34K' was originally designed for the Bulletin Board System, the main form of interconnection through computer users. Using leet would allow users to post private topics without the search function being able to find keywords. For example, if "Oakl4|\|D P057" was used for "Oakland Post," the search would come up empty-handed.

I love this game, which is why I hate this game.

Each year, Activision and other gaming companies just have to pump out another game a tad more spectacular than the last, something so great that any fan of the series is compelled to get the game no matter how much they kick and scream.

It's not just the physical copy of the game that costs so much either. First you have the disc, a \$60 value initially. But wait, don't you want to buy the hardened or elite edition, complete with strategy guide, limited edition journal, night-vision goggles, 24-pack of Mountain Dew and family size bag of Doritos?

Yes. Yes, absolutely, I do. Another \$100.

Don't forget about the additional map packs online, coming in at about \$15 a package.

Once you've learned the first set of levels, a second pack is released to further antagonize you and double your investment.

Might as well go out and buy a \$50 controller for when I smash one against the wall because that 12-year-old from Germany keeps sniping your face off and shrieking in your earpiece, "Mein führen du isst, kleine Schlampel!"

Rest assured, I will do all these things, not move from my couch for at least a week and then have to pay hospital fees for the bed sores forming on my ever-growing rump.

So, take my investment of roughly \$200 and multiply that by, oh, 5.6 million in the first day, the amount last year's Black Ops raked in.

If everyone else is as stupid as I am, shell-ing out that kind of cash, the gaming industry leaned back and made over \$1.1 billion, all before we get home and toss grenades

at one another and blow our sex lives into smithereens.

No matter how much I resist the gravitational pull of this entrapment, I am sure I will not be fulfilling any of my journalistic duties in the upcoming weeks, much to the delight of many verbal readers.

I was really looking forward to covering the GOP debate.

I'll be digitally destroying the country's landmarks instead.

And to think, some people refer to us as America's future.

### Fast Facts

According to figures from Activision, Modern Warfare 2 sold around **4.7 million units**

in both the US and the UK in the first 24 hours of its release.

The first day alone earned Activision **\$310 million**

in sales, making Modern Warfare 2 the biggest entertainment launch in history.

# GOT SOMETHING TO MOUTH OFF ABOUT?

The Oakland Post is looking for satirical scribes, witty writers and comical columnists. Submit your best efforts to [editor@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:editor@oaklandpostonline.com) and you could get published for the world to see.



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www.oaklandpostonline.com

November 2, 2011

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2) What is your impression of The Oakland Post? \_\_\_\_\_

3) What changes (if any) would you make to The Oakland Post? \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form to any black newspaper rack around campus  
or directly to us, downstairs in the Oakland Center, room 61.

\*You must fill out this survey in its entirety to be considered for next week's drawing.